

The Honorable Kay Granger

Chairwoman

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs

Committee on Appropriations

Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Madam Chairwoman:

As the hours continue to pass we are provided additional details about the United States Military and the Intelligence Community's successful mission to locate and eliminate Osama bin Laden.

While we can be very thankful that the mastermind of the September 11th attack on the United States, and numerous other terrorist attacks throughout the world, has finally been killed; I am thoroughly concerned about where this evil individual found sanctuary.

I, like many Americans, thought Osama bin Laden may be located in an isolated hidden place in the mountains of Pakistan's tribal northwest in a location of approximately 28,000 square miles where the Pakistani Taliban and al-Qaida fighters are known to exist . An area that would have made it very difficult to locate any individual, especially the most wanted terrorist in the world.

However, we now learn that Osama bin Laden was living in a million dollar compound which was custom-built in 2005 in Abbottabad in north-west Pakistan. The heavily fortified compound,

with 11- to 18-foot walls topped by barbed wire, is only a few hundred yards from the Pakistan Military Academy, described as Pakistan's West Point. The city, Abbottabad, is home to Pakistan Army 2nd Division, and is a cantonment under government control, and is located 75 miles from the Pakistan Capital of Islamabad.

It is not unreasonable for the American people to question if Osama bin Laden was located on government controlled land, next to a military academy, and so close to the nation's Capital. What real assistance was the Pakistan Government providing for the last 10 years to locate the al-Qaeda leader and bring him to justice?

Since the September 11th terrorist attack, the United States Government has provided an estimated \$20 billion of assistance to the Government of Pakistan. Questions are arising on whether the Government of Pakistan may have aided and abetted this most wanted international terrorist.

I think it is quite clear that unless we get a clear explanation of what the Government of Pakistan knew about the whereabouts of Osama bin Laden, all foreign aid from American taxpayers to this nation needs to cease. We need to understand whether the Government of Pakistan was harboring Osama bin Laden for all these years. Further, did the Government of Pakistan always know where this terrorist was but instead did not want to bring him to justice in order to continue to receive foreign aid from the United States of America.

It is quite disturbing that this revelation comes on the heels of Pakistan's President admonishing Hamid Karzai to not support long term security agreement with the United States. I served in Afghanistan for 2 1/2 years and familiar with the sanctuary being provided to Islamic terrorists in Pakistan. Many believe the central headquarters of the Taliban, and Mullah Omar, are located in Quetta, Pakistan.

As you begin to prepare the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2012, I hope the Subcommittee will look into these very important issues and make a determination to end all foreign aid to the Government of Pakistan.

Very Respectfully,

Allen B. West

cc: Speaker John Boehner

Majority Leader Eric Cantor

Majority Whip Kevin McCarthy

Republican Conference Chairman Jeb Hensarling

Committee on Appropriations Chairman Hal Rogers

Committee on Foreign Affairs Ileana Ros-Lehtinen

Chairman on Armed Services Buck McKeon